

Issue: Opioid Crisis and Medicaid Expansion

Dirty Needle Exchange Programs Work to Reduce Harm.

Republicans don't support legislation connecting people to addiction treatment.

Governor McAuliffe has declared the opioid addiction crisis a public health emergency in Virginia. In early 2017, he worked with Democrats and Republicans alike to pass a bill to reduce the damage of the epidemic by helping people find treatment. Bill HB 2317 allows local health departments to administer harm reduction programs in parts of the state with high rates of HIV and hepatitis. These programs will exchange dirty syringes for clean ones, offer testing for hepatitis C and HIV, and connect people to addiction treatment.

Republican delegates, Bob Marshall (HD13), James LeMunyon (HD67), Randy Minchew (HD10), and a slew of other Republicans voted against the bill. Republican delegate, Tag Greason (HD 32) refused to support the bill and didn't bother voting. The Republican majority in the House of Delegates also prevented the expansion of Medicaid, denying 400,000 eligible Virginians access to Substance Abuse Services. It's time to vote for Democrats to reverse these heartless policies and start putting in place effective programs like these and Medicaid Expansion to help people get treatment.

Opioid Epidemic Legislation	HD	Locality	HB 2317	Vote For these Democrats instead
Mark Dudenhefer (not running)	HD2	DC Metro	No	Jennifer Foy
Randy Minchew	HD10	DC Metro	No	Wendy Gooditis
Joseph R Yost	HD12	SW VA	Yes	Chris Hurst
Robert G Marshall	HD13	DC Metro	No	Danica Roem
Scott Lingamfelter	HD31	DC Metro	Yes	Elizabeth Guzman
Thomas A (Tag) Greason	HD32	DC Metro	Didn't vote	David Reid
Tim Hugo	HD40	DC Metro	No	Donte Tanner
David B Albo*	HD42	DC Metro	Yes	Kathy Tran
Jackson Miller	HD50	DC Metro	No	Lee Carter
Rich Anderson	HD51	DC Metro	Yes	Hala Ayala
James M LeMunyon	HD67	DC Metro	No	Karrie Delaney
Jimmie Massie (not running)	HD72	Richmond	Yes	Schuyler VonValkenberg
John O'Bannon	HD73	Richmond	Sponsor, Yes	Debra Rodman
Democrat John Bell	HD87	DC Metro	Yes	John Bell (incumbent)
David E Yancey	HD94	Norfolk	Yes	Shelly Simonds